Evasion of Customs Duty by trading houses

676. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to answer to unstarred question 74 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 26th February, 2002 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the large number of recognised trading houses are involved in evasion of Customs Duty; if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that investigation has been orderded into imports by ADANI Exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) No, Sir. It is not correct to say that large number of recognized trading houses are involved in evasion of customs duty.

(b) No directions has been issued in the recent past for carrying out investigations into imports by M/s. Adani Exports Ltd. However, the Customs Department as and when information of irregularities are received, necessary action is being taken in case of importers including M/s. Adani Exports Ltd.

CIIs report on Taxes

677. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the report of Confederation of Indian Industry stating that lower taxes is the key to China's success;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) whether Government propose to replicate similar steps to give boost to the economy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) The Report entitled 'Learning from China to Unlock India's Manufacturing Potential' by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and McKinsey has indicated that reduction and simplification of indirect taxes in China has boosted demand.